UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
NIGER

IPF:(1987-91) $37 326 000
(NER/89/011) - Programme Nigérien d'enquêtes auprès des ménages (PADEM)

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	6 March 1991
Expected duration:	Four years
Proposed executing agency:	United Nations
Government implementing agency:	Direction of Statistics and Demography, (Ministry of Planning)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$2 412 000 Source of funds: IPF
Government contribution:	

Project background

The above-mentioned project is the outcome of two initiatives: first, a programme of surveys was proposed under the National Household Survey Capability Programme (RAF/86/052), involving ECA and the UN Statistical Office, which prepared a draft project document in 1988. Subsequently, as an activity of the project (RAF/86/037) Social Dimensions of Adjustment, PADEM was revised by a joint mission of UNDP, the World Bank, and the UN Statistical Office, in August 1990. The SDA project has developed a framework for activities in the fields of data collection and analysis, social action programmes, and capacity building for improved social policy and planning. The importance of reliable socio-economic data for policy making has been stressed by the SDA project; and the SDA project has attempted to identify the survey content and structure needed to produce useful and usable statistics. The project addresses an important area of weakness in Nigerien policy capacity, the non-availability of basic socio-economic data collected on a national basis.

Niger has suffered severely from the impact of the economic crisis in the 1980s, and the importance of improved economic management is now clearer than ever. To assist the government in improved resource management and social policy design, accurate and timely socio-economic data will be a major input. PADEM has been designed to supply the data needed for improved policy formulation.

Description of project

The major objectives of the project are to: (a) provide the Government with the statistical capacity necessary for improved economic management; and (b) ensure the availability of the data needed to monitor the impact of structural adjustment and to enable appropriate corrective policy measures to be formulated. Project activities will include: (a) establishing a programme of training for national officials, at central government, sectoral and regional levels, designed to develop national capacity in data collection, analysis and management of the statistical system; (b) co-ordinating the entire statistical system, involving a harmonization of concepts, codes and nomenclatures; (c) enhancing the capacity in the use of micro-computers and the extension of the micro-computer network to the regional level, enabling some decentralization of data analysis; and (d) preparing an integrated programme of surveys (monitoring and structural), to cover the priority data needs of the Government. The training will involve a combination of bursaries for three-year university degrees, study tours and national seminars, and on-the-job training.

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

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Monitoring surveys will be undertaken annually, and will provide data on a small number of key socio-economic variables.

The structural surveys are designed to provide a basis for more in-depth understanding of economic behaviour. All surveys will collect data on a gender-specific basis, with a more detailed survey on the status of women in 1993. By basing all surveys on the same master sample, the surveys will provide data on a comparable basis, and hence enable an analysis of trends over time in key socio-economic variables. The data needs have been identified as the key long-term data requirements of economic and social policy making at national, regional and sectoral levels. Survey results will begin to be available to policy makers during 1991, with the completion of the household budget-consumption survey. In order to ensure co-ordination between users and producers of data, an inter-ministerial committee has been established at technical level, chaired by the Direction of Statistics and Demography. The sustainability of the project will be secured by the establishment of a system of permanent household surveys, by the enhanced capacity of Nigerien statisticians to design and execute surveys and analyze the results, and by the rationalization of the statistical system.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 39 work-months for a senior technical advisor, 15 work-months for specialist consultants, 39 work-months for an administrator, and funding of secretarial and transport services; three-year bursaries for seven statisticians, 16 work-months of study tours, annual national seminars on statistical co-ordination and on survey methodology, and three regional seminars on data collection; training for approximately 110 officials of middle and higher levels designed to enhance the capacity of the Government of Niger to maintain the survey system and the data base beyond the termination of the project; expendable and non-expendable equipment; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 275 300
Training	511 000
Equipment	309 800
Miscellaneous	315 900
Total	2 412 000

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